

Brooklyn Bridge

A monthly newsletter connecting you to Wetzel County Schools' County Office

VOL. 3, ISSUE 1



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Board
Members



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Wellness
5K

Wetzel County Boards Members



MEET OUR NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Jay Yeager is retired from the Wetzel County Board of Education. He and his wife, Barbara, have two sons, Corey and Ryan, and one granddaughter, Emmalynn. Mr. Yeager's hobbies/interests include golfing, fishing, hunting, traveling, and reading.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A BOARD MEMBER? I believe my thirty-seven years' experience as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, supervisor, Assistant Superintendent, and Interim Superintendent made me an excellent candidate for a seat on the Wetzel County Board of Education. Also, my knowledge of all attendance areas of the county gives me an understanding of the wants and needs of the students, parents, and residents of each of the four areas.

AS A BOARD MEMBER, WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR WETZEL COUNTY SCHOOLS? That all students leave Wetzel County Schools with the basic knowledge and skills needed to be productive citizens.





Mr. Brian Price is a Minister in Paden City. He and his wife, Debra, have three children, Samuel, Isaac, and Rachel.

WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES/INTERESTS? I enjoy music from various genres as well as musical theatre. I enjoy volunteering my time to promote the performing arts at Paden City High School (where my wife serves as the Director of Bands) and throughout the county. As a parent, I love watching my children perform in any and all activities. Whether it be on a stage, in a concert hall, or on Mountaineer Field they have always brought me the greatest joy. I'm an avid Mountaineer fan and enjoy watching college football and basketball. I am a computer hobbyist and enjoy tinkering with technology. I love interacting with people. I love to hear their story, appreciate their experiences, and to learn from them.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A BOARD MEMBER? My dad taught me many life lessons. He taught me to leave every situation better than I found it. If you borrow a car you return it washed and the gas tank full. If you rent a facility you leave it cleaner than when you arrived. That basic principle has motivated me to

find positive ways to impact our community. If together we can improve education for the children of Wetzel County then we will leave it better than we found it. Education is a key factor in improving the lives of our citizens. It can create a path out of poverty. It can provide opportunity that may have seemed unattainable for many children in our county. If I am able to have a small role in improving the future for our students then it will be worth the effort.

AS A BOARD MEMBER, WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR WETZEL COUNTY SCHOOLS? My vision for Wetzel County Schools is continual and measurable growth. Each year should be marked by improvement in the various areas that make for great schools. From academic standards, school culture and behavior, facilities management, and the various other factors that affect our schools. Every school needs to set realistic goals for improvement, devise a plan to achieve those goals, and then monitor that the plan is being implemented. As a board we need to set that vision for our schools and then encourage our leadership to work diligently to fulfill those goals.



Mrs. Amy Cooley is a stay at home parent and volunteer. She is married to Don Cooley, Jr., and they have three children, Cassara, Alexis, and Hunter. Mrs. Cooley's hobbies/interests include reading, writing poetry, painting, crafts, and family time.

WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO BECOME A BOARD MEMBER? I sought reelection in 2018 to the Wetzel County Board of Education. My inspiration for becoming a board member comes in many forms. First, my children and their educational success is my driving factor. Second, the smiles of the students in this county warms my heart. I want each of them to reach their full potential. Finally, I was raised in Wetzel County and want to see it return to the thriving community it once was, offering our children every advantage to succeed in life.

AS A BOARD MEMBER, WHAT IS YOUR VISION FOR WETZEL COUNTY SCHOOLS? My vision for Wetzel County Schools is to help our students discover their potential and strengths. I want to see our children prepared for real-life situations. We, as a school system, community, and county, need to provide a nurturing environment while also teaching self discipline and responsibility. My vision will always be working towards ensuring our children are prepared to become productive community members in whichever path they choose: higher education, employment, or serving in the US military.



Wetzel County Technical Education Center Now Open

What comes next?

Wetzel County Schools has recently re-opened the career center, now called the Wetzel County Technical Education Center. The first program of study added was Welding. We're now looking to the future! Students in grades 7 through 10 were to complete an online survey asking what their ideas were for their future careers. This information was gathered and reviewed, and together with data about the projected needs in our area workforce, the next program of study should be announced before the end of this calendar year. Options that are being considered include: HVAC, Health Sciences, Cosmetology, Plumbing, Electrical, and Education.

Grand Opening of the Wetzel County Technical Education Center

On October 8 at 5:00pm, a grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony was held at the new Wetzel County Technical Education Center (WCTEC). Current board members were joined by past members, as well as staff, students, and the public to celebrate this event. Hundred High School student Marlin Hippensteel III, assisted by Magnolia High School students Mikey Hamrick and Trenton Schibelhood, did the honors of 'cutting the ribbon' by using a torch to cut through a metal ribbon. All three are currently attending WCTEC for welding. The WCS Maintenance Department was also recognized for their hard work in connection with the construction of the WCTEC and a plaque was placed at the entrance.



Photo Credit: Ed Parsons—Wetzel Chronicle





Wetzel County Schools recently had 6 schools attend Day 1 of the School-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SWPBIS) Academy in Parkersburg, WV. Each school will complete 3 days of academy training. The PBIS initiative is a collaboration with the WVDE Office of Special Education and the WV Autism Training Center (WV ATC) and is aligned with *Policy 4373-Expected Behavior in Safe and Supportive Schools*. The goal of PBIS is to make schools effective and efficient by building equitable learning environments for all students. PBIS establishes behavioral supports needed for academic and social successes for all students utilizing a collection of interventions, strategies and organizational systems. PBIS is implemented in a three-tiered fidelity system and is based on a model of prevention from public health.

Ultimately, PBIS will assist schools in determining what type of learning environment they want and what that means in terms of behavior, as well as improving culture, climate and building relationships with students and staff. PBIS, when implemented successfully, gives teachers more time to teach, students more time to learn and administrators more time to run their schools.

Wetzel County Schools website

wetzelcountyschools.com

Wetzel County Schools Wellness 5K

Saturday, October 27, 2018

Downtown New Martinsville

Register online!

<https://aptiming.com/race/768>

Trainings

Don't forget to use the ERO system to register and check for updates!

[http://
ero5.eschoolsolutions.com](http://ero5.eschoolsolutions.com)

District ID: 26155



WINTER TRIPS

THIS IS A REMINDER TO ALL SCHOOLS:

Winter trips will begin on Monday, December 3, 2018 and conclude on Saturday, March 16, 2019. Please submit forms for fall trips to the Transportation office by **Wednesday, October 31st, 2018.**

SUICIDE PREVENTION AWARENESS

September was national Suicide Prevention Awareness month. We recognized this by completing Jamie's law and the Jason Flatt Act. Jamie's law mandates that students in grades 6-12 received instruction on suicide prevention, whereas the Jason Flatt Act requires staff to receive a refresher training at the beginning of each school year concerning suicide prevention. Resources for help include Help for WV (1-844-HELP-4-WV), National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-TALK), Vets 4 Warriors for veterans (1-855-838-8255), or text TALK or HELLO 741741 to the Crisis Text Line.

Red Ribbon Week/Substance Abuse Awareness

Red ribbon week will be the school week of October 22-26 this school year. All of Wetzel County Schools have planned a variety of substance abuse awareness activities as well as fun ideas to bring awareness to this problem in our county, state, and country. Lessons are taught throughout the year by teachers, counselors, and school resource officers.

Resources include Operation Prevention which is a program designed specifically for the opioid crisis. This program is designed for grades 3-12 and can be found at operation-prevention.com; Truth About Drugs which is designed for grades 6-12 and encompasses many types of illegal substances and can be found at drugfreeworld.org; helpandhopewv.org; and stigmafreewv.org

State law requires students in grades 6-12 receive instruction on opioids awareness.



State law requires students in grades K-12 receive instruction on how to properly interact with law enforcement as well as how to respond to a police officer. These lessons are taught by our school resource officers (SRO's).

